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7/23/03
A.W.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Giuffrida et al.

Examiner: Neveen, Abel-Jalil

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Serial No.: 09/835,064

Group Art Unit: 2175

Filed: 04/13/2001

Our Ref: HRL065

10 For: "Method for Automatically Extracting Metadata from Electronic Documents Using Spatial Rules"

RE: **RESPONSE**

RECEIVED

15 Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

JUL 22 2003

Technology Center 2100

RESPONSE

Sir:

20 This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated February 13, 2003.
The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter and consider the Remarks made below. **All remarks herein are made without prejudice.**

SPECIFICATION OBJECTIONS

25 In section 1 of the current Office Action, the Examiner objected to the abstract of the disclosure. Specifically, the Examiner requested that the reference numerals in parentheses be removed from the abstract. The Examiner cited to MPEP §608.01 to support his objection. The Applicants have reviewed MPEP §608.01 and are not familiar with what part of MPEP §608.1 indicates that reference numerals are not appropriate
30 and/or allowable in the abstract. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner indicate what part of MPEP §608.1 dictates that reference numerals are not to be used in the abstract.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC §102 – Mahoney et al.

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Claim 1

In section 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claim 1 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Mahoney et al. U.S. Pat. No. 5,999,664 (the Mahoney